

### Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a metallic filtration material, comprising the steps of:

(a) forming a metallic filtration media from metal fibres, metal powder, metal wires, woven metal mesh, or any combination thereof, and

(b) applying a protective coating to the metallic filtration media by either chemical vapour deposition or physical vapour deposition.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of forming the metallic filtration material into a filter unit, by providing the filtration media with a supporting structure.

4. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the filtration media is applied to part or all of the supporting structure.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein part of or all of the supporting structure is applied to the filtration media.

6. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the filtration media is provided with the supporting structure after the protective coating is applied to the filtration media.

7. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the filtration media is provided with the supporting structure before the protective coating is applied to the filtration media.

8. (original) A method according to claim 3, further including a step of applying the protective coating to the supporting structure.

9. (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the filtration media and the supporting structure are provided with the protective coating in the same application process.

10-27. (cancelled)

28. (new) A method of manufacturing a metallic filtration material, comprising the step of applying a protective coating to a metallic filtration media by either chemical vapour deposition or physical vapour deposition, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal fibres, metal powder, metal wires, woven metal mesh, or any combination thereof.

29. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal fibres.

30. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal powder.

31. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal wires.

32. (new) A method according to claim 28, wherein the metallic filtration media includes woven metal mesh.

33. (new) A method according to claim 28, further comprising the step of forming the metallic filtration material into a filter unit, by providing the filtration media with a supporting structure.

34. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal fibres.

35. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal powder.

36. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the metallic filtration media includes metal wires.

37. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the metallic filtration media includes woven metal mesh.

38. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the filtration media is applied to part or all of the supporting structure.

39. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein part or all of the supporting structure is applied to the filtration media.

40. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the filtration media is provided with the supporting structure after the protective coating is applied to the filtration media.

41. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the filtration media is provided with the supporting structure before the protective coating is applied to the filtration media.

42. (new) A method according to claim 33, further including a step of applying the protective coating to the supporting structure.

43. (new) A method according to claim 33, wherein the filtration media and the supporting structure are provided with the protective coating in the same application process.